

# Planting Trees for Wildlife

AUCKLAND/WAIKATO

## OAKS

### Introduction

The value of planting trees to enhance wildlife habitat has long been recognized by the Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game Council. This pamphlet describes some of the preferred trees which have proved to be excellent in the past.

### Site preparation and care of plants

There are many easy things you can do to give your trees a head start:

1. Put good topsoil around roots
  2. Exclude stock with adequate fencing
  3. Water well especially initially
  4. Fertilizer desirable (also mulch/rotted hay)
  5. Staking referable if exposed
  6. Control weeds in early years
  7. Pest control by traps or poison (esp. possum & rabbits)
- For a small investment of time and money the rewards can be tremendous.

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### Pin Oak *Quercus Palustris*

<b>Height:</b>	10m x 6m (up to 40m)
<b>Description:</b>	Fast growing High acorn producer Plant in groups of three Deciduous
<b>Soil Types:</b>	Deep fertile soil Tolerates poor drainage
<b>Fruit:</b>	3cm Acorns
<b>Timing of fruit:</b>	April - June 15 years to fruit
<b>Benefits to Wildlife:</b>	Food for ducks and pheasants



### English Oak *Quercus Robur*

<b>Height:</b>	10m x 6m (up to 30m)
<b>Description:</b>	Hardy Relatively fast growing Squat trunk Massive branches Deciduous
<b>Soil Types:</b>	Plant in deeply dug, slightly acid soils
<b>Fruit:</b>	4cm Ovoid Acorns
<b>Timing of fruit:</b>	February - April 10 - 15 years to fruit
<b>Benefits to Wildlife:</b>	Food for ducks, pheasants, especially post moult



### Turkey Oak *Quercus Cerris*

<b>Height:</b>	10m x 6m (up to 30m)
<b>Description:</b>	Very fast growing, especially in mild climate Deciduous
<b>Soil Types:</b>	Moist fertile soils
<b>Fruit:</b>	3cm Acorns Plant in pairs or more to get acorns
<b>Timing of fruit:</b>	March - May 10-15 years to fruit
<b>Benefits to Wildlife:</b>	Food for ducks



